

# Recovery Plan Action Status

Plan Name: Ozark/Virginia Big-eared Bats (2 spp.)

Plan Status: Final

Plan Date: 08-May-84

Lead Agency: USFWS

Lead Office: West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office

(304)

636-6586 )

Species	Action Priority #	Action #	Action Description	Action Status	Est. Initiation Date	Est. Completion Date	Responsible Parties	Work Type	Labor Type	Action Comments
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	2	1.1	Study June behavior of other bat species in big-eared bat maternity colonies	Not Started			Region 5, Endangered Species Program	Research: Competition	Contract, Graduate Student, Species Expert	By contract.
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	1.2	Monitor status of populations in maternity colonies	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Population Surveys	Internal Field Assistance	Conduct four consecutive annual surveys. Funding may have to be increased if new colonies are found. R2 & ODWC - costs are \$900 per FY; R3 & MDC - costs are \$300 per FY; R4, AGFC & KDFWR - costs are \$900 per FY; R5 & WVDNR - costs are \$3000 per FY; R5 & VCGIF - costs are \$300 per FY.

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Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	2	1.3	Survey all hibernacula once every two years	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Population Surveys	Internal Field Assistance	Funding may have to be increased if new colonies are found. R2 & ODWC - costs are \$600 per FY; R3 & MDC - costs are \$300 per FY; R4 & AGFC - costs are \$900 per FY; R4 & KDFWR - costs are \$300 per FY; R5 & WVDNR - costs are \$1800 per FY.
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	2.1a	Search for maternity colonies	Obsolete	Prior to FY 1995		Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Region 2, Endangered Species Program	Research	Internal Field Assistance, Species Expert	it is suspected that there may be additional unknown maternity colonies in KY and NC
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	2.1b	Search for maternity colonies	Obsolete			Missouri Department of Conservation, R3, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	2	2.1c	Search for maternity colonies	Obsolete			Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Funding for AR search (2000)
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	2.1d	Search for maternity colonies	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Funding for KY search (2000)

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Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	3	2.1e	Search for maternity colonies	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program	Research: Other Information	Contract	
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	2.1f	Search for maternity colonies	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Region 5, Endangered Species Program	Research: Other Information	Contract	
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	2.2a	Search for hibernacula	Obsolete			Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Region 2, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	2.2b	Search for hibernacula	Obsolete			Missouri Department of Conservation, R3, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	2	2.2c	Search for hibernacula	Obsolete			Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Funding for AR search (2000)
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	2	2.2d	Search for hibernacula	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Funding for KY search (2000)
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	2.2e	Search for hibernacula	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program	Research: Other Information	Internal Field Assistance	
Virginia big-eared bat (Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii virginianus)	1	2.2f	Search for hibernacula	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Region 5, Endangered Species Program	Research: Other Information	Internal Field Assistance	

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	3	2.3	Caves providing habitat for solitary big-eared bats	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Population Surveys	Internal Field Assistance	This information should be generated as a result of funding Action 2.1 and 2.2. This action will require compilation of data on such caves found during the conduct of Action 2.1 and 2.2.

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	1	3.1	Obtain long-term authority to manage and protect colony sites	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Acquisition	Internal Technical Assistance	Utilize existing program funding.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	1	3.1.1	Reassess all existing habitat protection measures	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program	Management: Planning	Internal Technical Assistance	

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	1	3.2	Determine impact of human disturbance on colony population trends	Unknown			Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Management Techniques	Internal Technical Assistance	R2 & ODWC - action duration is 6 days and costs are \$2000 per FY; R3 & MDC - action duration is 3 days and costs are \$500 per FY; R4 & KDFWR - action duration is 6 days and costs are \$2600 per FY; R4 & AGFC - action duration is 6 days and costs are \$2000 per FY; R5 & WVDNR/VCGIF - action duration is 15 days and costs are \$4900 per FY.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	1	3.3.1	Determine long-term impact of existing gates on maternity colony populations	Complete	Prior to FY 1995	FY 2007	Region 5, Endangered Species Program	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Internal Technical Assistance	most populations have increased since properly designed gates were install. No adverse effects of current gates have been noted

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	1	3.3.2	Gather information on behavior, predation, and environmental problems resulting from gates on maternity colonies	Complete	Prior to FY 1995	FY 2007	Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Internal Technical Assistance	
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	1	3.3.3	Modify or remove any problem causing gates	Complete	Prior to FY 1995	FY 2005	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Cost undetermined.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	1	3.3.4	Design and test gates to alleviate problems revealed in Actions 3.3.1 and 3.3.2	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Patuxent Wildlife Research Center , Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Management Techniques	Contract	This action should be incorporated into the ongoing PWRC cave gating study. All actions under this action should be coordinated with the Action 8 coordinator.

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	1	3.3.5	Revise recovery plan position on gating maternity colony.	Partially Complete	FY 2008		R3, Endangered Species Program	Management	Internal Administrative	Utilize existing program funding. Gating of maternity colonies does not have adverse impacts and should be implemented to the extent practicable. Formal change to RP has not been made.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	2	3.3.6.1	Gather information on any existing gates on hibernacula of non-endangered big-eared bats	Complete	Prior to FY 1995	FY 2007	U.S. Bureau of Land Management, R3, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Utilize existing program funding.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	2	3.3.6.2	Gate one hibernaculum	Complete	Prior to FY 1995	FY 1995 - FY 1999	R3, Endangered Species Program	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Contract	Cost undetermined.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	1	3.3.7	Maintain fences and gates	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Region 5, Endangered Species Program	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Internal Field Assistance	



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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	3	3.4	Place warning/interpretive signs at cave entrances	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Management: Land Use	Internal Field Assistance	Cost undetermined.

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	2	3.5	Utilize law enforcement agencies to protect colony sites	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Other: Law Enforcement	Internal Technical Assistance	Utilize existing program funding. In some cases additional funding may be necessary.

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	3	4	Protection of caves providing habitat for solitary big-eared bats	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission , Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation , Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Internal Technical Assistance	

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	3	5.1	Prevent adverse modifications to the subsurface, including entrances	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Internal Technical Assistance	
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	2	5.2.1	Conduct pilot study to select and test the most appropriate means of obtaining information required in Action 5.2 (information on habitat use)	Complete	Prior to FY 1995	FY 1995 - FY 1999	Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program, Denver Wildlife Research Center	Research: Habitat Requirements	Graduate Student, Internal Field Assistance, Internal Technical Assistance	The investigation into use of back scatter tags and portable tagged material detectors could be jointly funded by the animal damage control program, migratory bird program, and endangered species program.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	2	5.2.2	Conduct a study to obtain information required in Action 5.2	Partially Complete	Prior to FY 1995	FY 1995 - FY 1999	Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Habitat Requirements	Graduate Student, Internal Field Assistance, Internal Technical Assistance	Other agencies, by contract. Cost undetermined.

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	2	5.3	Identify essential surface habitat for each colony site	Partially Complete	Prior to FY 1995		Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Habitat Requirements	Contract, Graduate Student, Internal Technical Assistance	Other agencies, by contract. Cost undetermined.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	2	5.4	Protect essential surface habitat	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Acquisition, Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Internal Technical Assistance	Utilize existing program funding.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	2	5.5	Include surface and subsurface habitat in Section 7 consultation process	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Management: Habitat Maintenance and Manipulation	Internal Technical Assistance	Utilize existing program funding.

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	2	5.6	Make locations of important roost sites and surface habitat available to agencies able to assist in protection	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Management: Planning	Internal Technical Assistance	Utilize existing program funding.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	3	5.7.1	Gather data on toxic substances used in big-eared bat habitat	Not Started			Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Utilize existing program funding.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	3	5.7.2	Gather baseline data on current toxic substance exposure of big-eared bats	Not Started			Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Environmental Contaminants	Contract, Graduate Student	Collection of samples will require a few days. The chemical analysis will require a longer time period.

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	3	5.8	Study prey species	Ongoing Current	FY 2000 - FY 2004		Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Research: Dietary Studies	Graduate Student	Other agencies, by contract. Basic information on prey species including differences throughout the range have been done.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	1	6.1	Develop and maintain landowner support	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Missouri Department of Conservation, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Management: Land Use	Internal Technical Assistance	Cost includes chemical analysis for organochlorines and heavy metals, and does not include travel costs for sample collection. R2 & ODWC - costs are \$500 per FY; R3 & MDC - costs are \$300 per FY; R4, AGFC & KDFWR - costs are \$300 per FY, each; R5 & VCGIF/WVDNR - costs are \$1000 per FY.

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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	3	6.2	Develop and maintain public support	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism , Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program, Missouri Division of Parks and Historic Preservation, Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department	Management: Land Use	Internal Technical Assistance	Utilize existing program funding to interpret value of endangered bats. USFS may incorporate endangered bats into nature talks at Seneca Rocks Visitor Center, West Virginia and at Blanchard Spring Caverns in Arkansas with guidance as appropriate SE personnel. Talks must not include cave locations. NPS (at Shenandoah NP and Blue Ridge Parkway) should incorporate discussion of endangered bats into nature talks on wildlife on the Appalachians with guidance of SE personnel.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	2	6.3	Develop and maintain caver support	Ongoing Current	Prior to FY 1995		Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Management: Land Use	Internal Technical Assistance	Utilize existing program funding.
Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> )	3	7	Prepare and maintain a management profile for each colony site	Not Started			Region 5, Endangered Species Program, Region 2, Endangered Species Program, R3, Endangered Species Program, Region 4, Endangered Species Program	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Utilize existing program funding.



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Virginia big-eared bat ( <i>Corynorhinus</i> (=Plecotus) <i>townsendii</i> <i>virginianus</i> )	2	8	Appoint a coordinator for all recovery efforts	Not Started			Office of Endangered Species (Washington Office)	Work type not yet selected	Labor type not yet selected	Utilize existing program funding. NOTE: The hibernaculum at Black Rock Cliff Cave, North Carolina, was reported after the final draft of this plan was completed. The recovery actions do not therefore mention this colony specifically or the need for surveys and protection of <i>P. townsendii</i> in NC. Appropriate funding for each task should be provided to insure protection of <i>P. townsendii</i> in NC.